

Westmead management ignore members' urgent plea for staff

Dear Member,

Cleaners at Westmead Hospital working in the afternoon and night shift are outraged that management have not listened to their pleas for help and extra staffing. Members are stretched beyond breaking point, and we believe there should be at least an additional 33 cleaners employed to relieve the pressure and ensure that the hospital is cleaned to an acceptable standard. In a last-ditch effort to make Westmead Executive take their pleas seriously, members decided to take industrial action on the 18th of December.

It would be nice to report that management came to the party and offered some last-minute Christmas cheer. Instead, all we got was a curt reply from the General Manager saying "Thanks for letting us know" and a phone call from WSLHD Human Resources to make sure members knew they would not be paid for taking industrial action.

It would seem Westmead and WSLHD management are more concerned about balancing the books – we know they are millions over budget – than providing the appropriate levels of staffing and resources to do the job properly.

This response shows little respect, empathy or support for hardworking health employees who come to work every day and take pride in the work they do.

The HSU will continue to work with members and delegates from Environmental Services to have their pleas heard and to force both Westmead and WSLHD Executives to provide solutions to our members concerns. It is not a big ask to have enough staff to do the job without having to go at breakneck speed just to get the minimum done.

If you work in Environmental Services and are not currently a member of the HSU, you can join online at www.hsu.asu.au/join or call 1300 478 679.

For more information, contact your workplace delegates or your HSU Organiser Brendan Roberts via brendan.roberts@hsu.asn.au or 0425 181 361.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD